



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/596,927

06/29/2006

Masao Kimura

40810

2402

52054 7590 04/30/2009

PEARNE & GORDON LLP
1801 EAST 9TH STREET
SUITE 1200
CLEVELAND, OH 44114-3108

EXAMINER

ZHOU, HONG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/30/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patdocket@pearne.com
dchervenak@pearne.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/596,927		KIMURA, MASAO	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	HONG ZHOU		2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on January 30, 2009 has been entered. Claims 1-2 have been amended. Claims 3-5 have been added. Claims 1-5 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 2 being independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. (US 2002/0064055, hereinafter Takahashi).

Regarding claim 2, Takahashi discloses a task light (light source 150 is provided for illuminating a keyboard of a portable computer, see Fig. 3; [0038]-[0039]) comprising: rotatable illumination means (e.g., light source 150 is on a rotatable display 105) provided approximately at the center in the horizontal direction (the light source 150 is at the center on a display 105, see Fig. 3) on a display that is rotatable with respect to a console (the display 105 is rotatable with respect to the keyboard 103, see Fig. 3); and a rotating means (display 105, Fig. 3) for rotating the illumination means (e.g., light source 150) so as to illuminate approximately the entire console (light source 150 illuminates the entire keyboard, see Fig. 7 and Fig. 8), based on the rotational position of the display with respect to the console detected by a detection means (e.g., the light source 150 is switched on when the display 105 is detected opened with respect to the keyboard by the

Art Unit: 2629

detection means 113 and 114, on the other hand, the light source 150 is switched off when the display 105 is detected closed by the detection means 113 and 114, see Fig. 10 and [0047]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lo (US, 2005/0047073) in view of Choi (US 2004/0133817).

Regarding claim 1, Lo discloses a task light (light sources 150 are provided for illuminating a keyboard 120, see Fig. 1 and [0014]) comprising: plural illumination means (150) aligned in the horizontal direction on a display (130) that is rotatable with respect to a console (display 130 is rotatable and rotates with respect to the keyboard 120 between a closed position covering the keyboard and an opened position exposing the keyboard, see [0013]).

Lo fails to disclose that the display is rotatable about a vertical axis with respect to the console and a detection means for detecting a rotational position of the display with respect to the console; and a lighting means for selectively lighting at least one of the

Art Unit: 2629

plural illumination means so as to illuminate approximately the entire console, based on the rotational position of the display detected by the detection means.

However, Choi discloses a portable computer (see Fig. 4 and [0056]) comprising a display (20, Fig. 1A) that is rotatable about a vertical axis with respect to a console (see Figs. 1A-1C) and a detection means (position sensor 50, see Fig. 4 and [0057]) for detecting rotational position of the display with respect to the console (position sensor 50 detects whether the display 20 is in the opened position (Fig. 1A) or rotated position (Fig. 1C)). Choi further discloses a controller (40a, Fig. 4) controlling a switch (first switching part 52, Fig. 4) to turn on/off the power source supplied to a screen input part 30 based on the rotational position of the display detected by the position sensor (e.g., turning on the power supply of the screen input part 30 when the display is rotated to the rotated position and turning off the power source of the screen input part 30 when the display is rotated to the opened position, see Fig. 5). Choi teaches that controlling the power source of the screen input part 30 minimizes unnecessary power supplied to the screen input part 30.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Lo with the features of the position sensor and the controller of Choi for detecting a converting rotation of a display between an opened position and a rotated position and controlling the power source of the illumination means based on the detected rotational position of the display. In this way, the power source of the plural illumination means (150) of Lo can be turned on to be selectively lighted for illuminating the keyboard (120) when the display is detected in an

Art Unit: 2629

opened position in which the display is toward the keyboard. Also, the power source of the plural illumination means (150) can be turned off when the display is detected in a rotated position in which the display is toward an opposite direction of the keyboard. The motivation for doing so would have been to save power supplied to the illumination means when a user does not need to operate the keyboard.

Regarding claim 3, Lo as modified by Choi discloses the task light of claim 1, but does not disclose wherein illumination means (light source 150) are selectively lit when the display is at a first position. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to further modify the invention of Lo as modified by Choi to only turn on the power source of the middle light source 150 when the display is detected in an opened position in which the display is toward the keyboard, because by turning on only one illumination means, the power supplied to the illumination means would be reduced so as to prolong the operating time of a battery.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lo (US, 2005/0047073) in view of Choi (US 2004/0133817), and further in view of Sprott et al. (US 5,057,024, hereinafter Sprott).

Regarding claim 4, Lo as modified by Choi discloses the task light of claim 3, but does not disclose wherein a second illumination means is selectively lit when the display is at a second position, and wherein the first illumination means is not the second illumination means.

However, Sprott discloses a task light (array 122 of LED'S 58 for illuminating a globe, see Figs. 1, 3 and 10) wherein a controller (computer 11, Fig. 1) selectively lit the LEDs 58 to illuminate selected regions (col. 10, lines 20-26).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the invention of Lo as modified by Choi in view of teachings of Sprott to have the controller selectively turn on the power source of a second light source (e.g., the left light source 150, see Fig. 1 of Lo) when the display is detected in a second position in which the display is rotated right relative to the keyboard (see Fig. 1B of Choi) to illuminate a selected region (e.g., the keyboard 120) so as to allow a user to use the keyboard to input data as necessary.

7. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lo (US, 2005/0047073) in view of Choi (US 2004/0133817), and further in view of Onodera (US 2003/0006958).

Regarding claim 5, Lo as modified by Choi discloses the task light of claim 1, but does not disclose wherein the detection means has an at least one mutually opposing conductive member adaptable with a contact metal fitting to correspond to the position of the display.

Onoda discloses a rotation detecting means comprising a photointerrupter 56 and a coding member 54 for detecting a rotation angle of a manipulation knob (see Fig. 9 and [0014]). Onoda further discloses the photointerrupter 56 having two mutually opposing conductive members (light-emitting element 56a and photodetector 56b) adaptable with a

Art Unit: 2629

contact metal (slits 54c is interposed between 56a and 56b) fitting to corresponding to the position of the manipulation knob (see Figs. 8 and 9; [0013]-[0014] and [0027]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the invention of Lo as modified by Choi with the rotation detecting means of Onoda for detecting a rotation position of a display with respect to a keyboard because the rotation detecting means of Onoda provides a low cost position sensor for detecting a position of a display.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 2 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Saiton (US 5,077,551) discloses a photosensor unit for detecting the position of a display unit with respect to a main body comprising a photointerrupter and a light shielding segment.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HONG ZHOU whose telephone number is (571)270-5372. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. - 5PM.

Art Unit: 2629

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amare Mengistu can be reached on (571)272-7674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/H. Z. /
Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Amare Mengistu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629